

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Byron Elliot Short, Jr., et al.  
Serial No.: 10/693,562  
Filed: October 24, 2003  
Group No.: 2821  
Examiner: Shih Chao Chen  
Notice of Allowance Mailed: January 20, 2006  
Confirmation No.: 3601  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING  
TEMPERATURE GRADIENTS WITHIN A STRUCTURE  
BEING COOLED

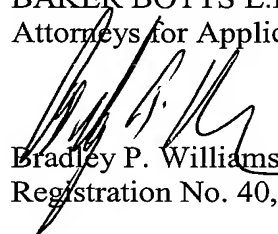
**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1, 4-17, 19, 20, 24-34, and 61-65. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicants respectfully issue a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicants do not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Date: 4/17/06

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